

2026 North Carolina Public Health Preparedness Symposium
“Resilience, Recovery, and Strengthening Trust:
The Future of Public Health Preparedness”

Agenda

PRECONFERENCE TRAINING DAY: May 6, 2026

1:00 pm-5:00 pm Preconference Trainings:

*Admittance to one preconference training option is included in symposium registration.

*All attendees must register for the training of their choice in NC TERMS before May 6th.

<u>Chemical Decontamination that Improves Victim Outcomes (BARDA 100)</u>	Efrain Garcia & Gregg Lord BARDA	Winston 1A
<u>Storytelling for Influence in Public Health Response (Storytelling 100)</u>	Heidi Schultz, PhD UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School	Winston 3A
<u>Applying AI to the PHEP Cycle: Practical Uses, Risks, and Guardrails (PHEP Cycle 100)</u>	Evident Analytics	Winston 2 (Ballroom)
<u>Strengthening Public Trust Through Effective Crisis Communications (Trust 100)</u>	Julie Parker Communications	Winston 3C

CONFERENCE DAY 1: May 7, 2026

7:30 am– 8:30 am Registration & Breakfast

8:00 am – 4:00 pm Exhibitors Open

8:15 am- 8:45 am Opening Ceremony & Welcome

8:45 am – 9:55 am Plenary Session

Building Resilience: Developing a State MCM Stockpile in a Shifting Federal Landscape	Glenroy Christie, SNS Tim Davis, NC PHP&R	Winston 2 Ballroom
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9:55 am - 10:20 am Break**10:20 am - 11:30 am Plenary Session**

Ground Truth: Lessons from Hurricane Helene for Overdose Prevention in Disasters	Kat Humphries, Vital Strategies Overdose Prevention Program Mitch Stripling, NYC Preparedness & Recovery Institute, Ainsley Bryce Ashley Wurth, NC DHHS Div of Mental Health	Winston 2 Ballroom
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11:30 am - 11:50 am Plenary Session

NCPHA Preparedness Section Awards	NCPHA Preparedness Section Committee	Winston 2 Ballroom
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11:50 pm – 1:15 pm Lunch**1:20 pm - 2:10 pm Breakout Sessions:**

From Vulnerability to Trust: Integrating Specialized Infant Feeding for Community Resilience	Love Anderson, Breastfeeding Family Friendly Communities Norma Escobar, SAFE Infant Feeding	Winston 1A
NC ISAAC - The Fusion Center	Ashley Schoonmaker, NC SBI	Winston 1B
ICS Without the Yawn: Fun, Fresh, and Interactive Training Techniques	Lori B Boykin, BS, NRP	Winston 1C
Improving Medical Countermeasure Deployment Using End User Feedback	Efrain Garcia, BARDA Graydon Lord, BARDA	Winston 3A

2:15 pm – 3:05 pm Breakout Sessions:

Cumberland County Public Health Active Shooter Hostile Event Response (ASHER) Training and Exercise	D. Scot Brooks, CrisisTEC LLC Greg Phillips, Cumberland County Health Department Lori B Boykin, NC PHP&R	Winston 3B
Strategic Planning and Peer Learning To Address Health Related Rumors in Communities: A Pilot Intervention	John Wallace, NC Institute for PH, UNC Gillings School of Global PH Sandra Diel, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute UNC Chapel Hill	Winston 1A

Hazardous Materials and Commodity Flow Studies: Resource for Public Health	David Hesselmeier, On Target Preparedness Douglas P. Logan, On Target Preparedness	Winston 1C
New PC track - Speed Dating	New PC Orientation Subcommittee	Winston 3C

3:10 pm- 3:25 pm Break

3:30 pm- 4:20 pm Breakout Sessions:

New PC track	NC Emergency Management	Winston 3C
From Plans to Practice: Strengthening County-Led Sheltering Through Exercises and Local Partnerships	Alexa Hodge, Gaston County DHHS	Winston 3B
COVID-19 and Beyond: A Global Enterprise's Guide to Effective Pandemic and Crisis Management	Vanessa Burrowes, IBM	Winston 1A
Farmworker Hurricane Recovery and Resiliency Project: A Collaborative Approach to Identify Needs and Train Farmworkers and Farm Owners in Sampson County, NC	Sarah Christian, NCDHHS Lisbeth Gall, National Center for Farmworker Health Olivia Antonio, National Center for Farmworker Health	Winston 1C

4:20 pm End of Day 1

CONFERENCE DAY 2: May 8, 2026

8:00 am Registration & Breakfast

8:00 am – 12:00 pm Exhibitors Open

8:30 am- 9:30 am Plenary Session

Keynote Address	Brian Kamoie Managing Director, Government & Public Services, Deloitte & Touche LLP	Winston 2 Ballroom
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9:35 am- 10:35 am Breakout Sessions:

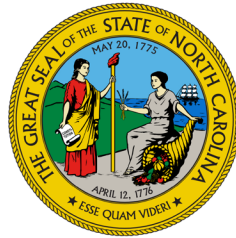
FBI Response to WMD Incidents	Matt Perkins, FBI	Winston 3A
Heat Preparedness Planning in NC: Connecting State and Local Health Departments	Nikhil Kothegal, NCDHHS John Misenheimer, NCDHHS	Winston 3C
Rapid Relief: Protecting Medication Access in Disasters through the Emergency Prescription Assistance Program	Sara Bratton, NC PHP&R	Winston 1C
New PC track - CPG 101	Lori B Boykin, NC PHP&R	Winston 1A

10:35 am - 11:00 am Break

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Plenary Session

Panel Discussion: Preparedness Perspectives from the Federal, State and Local Level	Cria Gregory, CDC Brian Combs, NC PHP&R Joshua Swift, Forsyth County	Winston 2 Ballroom
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12:00 pm – 12:15 pm Wrap up & Closing Announcements



**NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**